

**Abstract**

A method for detecting a kallikrein 8 polypeptide associated with ovarian cancer in a patient is provided comprising detecting kallikrein 8 polypeptide in a sample from the patient. Methods are also provided for monitoring the progression of ovarian cancer in a patient, determining whether ovarian cancer has metastasized or is likely to metastasize in the future, and assessing the aggressiveness or indolence of ovarian cancer. In addition, methods for assessing the potential efficacy of a test agent for inhibiting ovarian cancer in a patient, selecting an agent for inhibiting ovarian cancer in a patient, and assessing the ovarian cancer cell carcinogenic potential of a test compound are described. The invention also contemplates a method of treating a patient susceptible to, or having a cancer that expresses a kallikrein 8 polypeptide.